

22 August 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: The Chilean Presidential Election

We estimate that, regardless of the outcome of the Chilean elections, early nationalization of the copper industry is not likely. The leftist candidate who favors nationalization has little chance of being elected. The two moderate candidates, Alfonso and Matte, will almost certainly not advocate nationalization. Although Ibanez, who probably has the best chance of being elected, is committed to "ultimate" nationalization of the industry, he is not likely to press for it soon. However, political pressures may force him to demand further concessions from US copper interests and to increase Government controls over them.

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